HAMBURG SÜD

EDIFACT Version D Release 16A

VERMAS
Verified Gross Mass Message

Message Implementation Guide

Version 1.0.0

Change history

Version	Date	Comments
1.0.0	10-Jan-2019	Initial version

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Contents

1 Audience

This document is intended for business, technical and EDI personnel engaged in establishing an electronic connection with Hamburg Süd for the purpose of receiving Verified Gross Mass Messages from Hamburg Süd via EDIFACT Release D16A VERMAS.

The following chapters provide information regarding general conventions and message specifications.

2 General Information

2.1 Terminology

Within this manual specific terminology will be used that you may not be familiar with. In order to give you some guidance, please find below the most important EDI terms and their according definitions.

Directory

An EDI directory is published every 6 months in form of versions. The version name of the directory is named by 4 character mnemonic code made up of the year and part of year (identified by A or B). For example, the specifications within this manual conform to the directory approved by the United Nations in the first half of 2016 with a directory mnemonic code of D16A.

Each directory contains sub-directories for messages, segments, composites and data elements, all of which may change with directory versions. However, since a directory version is permanent, there is no need to update computer applications when specific directory has been adopted.

Interchange

An interchange is a group of messages that are sent in one transmission. This means that it is possible to have more than one message within an interchange. Please note that our standard implementation will only provide a single Verified Gross Mass Message per interchange.

Message

A message can be described as a business transaction. Therefore, where appropriate, a message is often referred to as a transaction rather than a message. A transaction could be a new entry, a new line, a change to a line, a cancellation of line etc.
A full list of messages can be retrieved from a sub-directory within all directory versions, called the message directory. Each message has its own description and structure, which may differ by directory version.

Segment

A segment is uniquely identified by a 3 character mnemonic tag, which is used as a reference to a common group of business information. Usually this will mean one segment contains one item of business data (i.e. field or attribute). For example Place of Origin, Port of Loading, Port of Discharge are all locations. Do the segment for location is used, called LOC. There are, however, segments that include more than one item of business data. For example Transport Mode and Voyage Number and Vessel are all classified as transport details included in the TDT segment.

Whilst a message has a standard structure of segments, there is also a separate subdirectory for segments within directory versions, known as the segment directory. Each segment has its own description and structure, which may differ by directory version.

Service Segment

A service segment is a segment that contains non-business related data. These segments usually encompass interchanges and messages, in the form of headers and trailers. For example UNB and UNZ service segments are header and trailer for an interchange and the UNH and UNT segments are header and trailer for message.

Segment Group

A segment group is a collection of segments that are related within a message structure. A simple example would be a group for details of transport. This would typically include a segment for the voyage (using TDT), reference (using RFF) and the locations (using LOC).

Composite Element

A composite element is a lower level of detail to identify business data within segment. It is normally used when a data item requires addition information. Each composite element has a unique code identifying it. A composite element could be used, for example when a data item is in the form of a code and it requires a type qualifier and also organization responsible for its maintenance. In case a group of data elements would be used to make composite element.

Whilst a segment has a standard structure of segments, there is also a separate subdirectory for composite elements within directory versions, known as the composite data element directory. Each composite element has its own description and structure, which may differ within directory version.

Data Element

A data element is the lowest level within the EDI structure for holding data. Each data element has a unique code identifying it. A data element can exist as a stand-alone element or as a sub-element within a composite element.

There is also a separate sub-directory for data elements within directory versions, known as the data element directory. Like many other sub-directories, the data element directory contains descriptions and other information. In addition, some data elements also have associated code lists, which are published by organizations such as the International Standards Organization (ISO). However, the United Nations also has its own code lists and, in addition, it is often possible for trading partner to use their own.

2.2 Processing Guidelines

Hamburg Süd is sending Verified Gross Mass Messages via VERMAS messages to the partner. A single message contains only one container of a single booking.

EDI communication depends on trading partnership and will be mutually defined within a separate agreement. Common protocols for the transmission of messages are e.g. FTP or SFTP.

2.3 Status Indicators and Usage Indicators

2.3.1 Status Indicators

Status Indicators (“M” and “C”) form part of the EDIFACT standard and indicate a minimum requirement to fulfill the needs of the message structure. They are not adequate for implementation purposes.
The Status Indicators are:

Value	Description
M	Mandatory The entity marked as such must appear in all messages, and apply to these messages as well as to any associated implementation guidelines (and consequently is also a Usage Indicator).
C	Conditional The entity is used by agreement between trading partners

2.3.2 Usage Indicators

Usage Indicators are implementation–related indicators that further detail the use of “Conditional” Status Indicators. Usage Indicators are applied at all levels of the guidelines and shown adjacent to data items such as segment groups, segments, composite data elements and simple data elements. They dictate the agreed usage of the data items or entities.
The Usage Indicators are:

Value	Description
M	Mandatory Indicates the item is mandatory in the UN/EDIFACT message.
R	Required Indicates the item must be transmitted in this implementation.
D	Dependent Indicates that the use of the item is depending on a well-defined condition or set of conditions. These conditions must be clearly specified in the relevant implementation guideline.
O	Optional Indicates that this item is at the need or discretion of both trading partners.
X	Not Used Indicates that this item is not used in this implementation. If present, it will be disregarded.
NA	Not Recommended (Advised) Indicates the item needn’t be transmitted in this implementation.
A	Advised Indicates the item must is recommended to be transmitted in this implementation.

Where an item within a segment group, segment or composite data element is marked with Usage Indicators “M” or “R”, but the segment group, segment or composite data element has been marked “O” or “D” (or for that matter “X”), the item is only to be transmitted when the segment group, segment or composite of which it is a part, is used.

2.3.3 Format

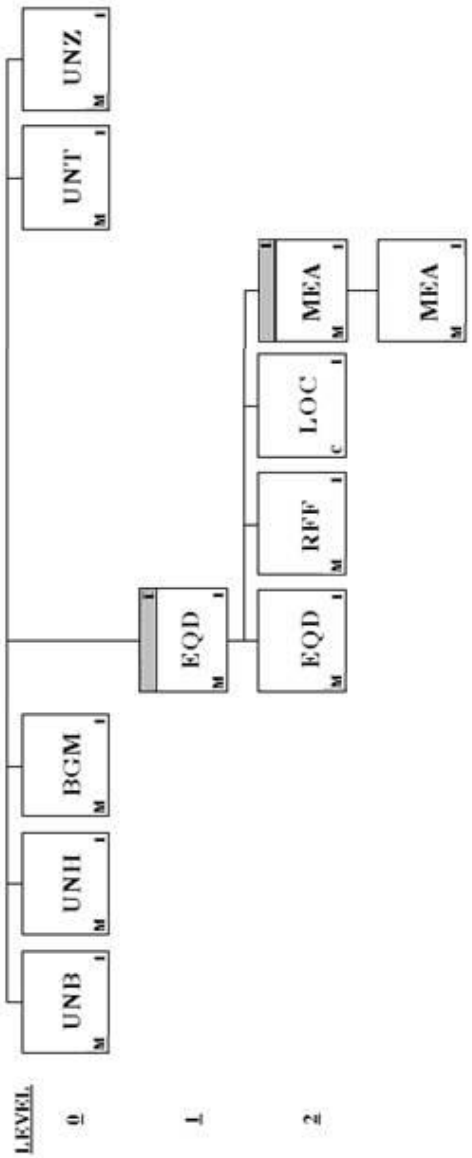
The format is used to describe the official format requirements within D16A directory.

Examples	
a3	3 alphabetic characters, fixed length
n6	6 numeric characters, fixed length
an5	5 alphanumeric characters, fixed length
a..6	up to 6 alphabetic characters
an..35	up to 35 alphanumeric characters
n..6	up to 6 numeric characters

3 VERMAS D16A segment table of contents

This specification provides the definition of the VERMAS to be used in Electronic Data Interchange. In relation to a supply chain including the transport of a packed container on an ocean vessel, the VERMAS permits to submit the Verified Gross Mass of the packed container and supporting information as legally required by the SOLAS Convention Chapter VI, Part A, Regulation 2.
Hamburg Süd is currently using VERMAS messages only for transmission of the SOLAS Verified Gross Mass and directly related information in accordance to the recommendations of the Shipplanning Message Development Group (SMDG).

	Pos. No.	Seg. ID	Name	Req. Des.	Max.Use	Group Repeat	Notes and Comments
M	0005	UNB	Interchange Header	M	1		
M	0010	UNH	Message Header	M	1		
M	0020	BGM	Beginning of Message	M	1		
X	0025	DTM	Date/Time/Period	C	9		
X	0030		Segment Group 1: RFF-DTM	C		9	
X	0031	RFF	Reference	M	1		
X	0036	DTM	Date/Time/Period	C	9		
X	0038		Segment Group 2: NAD-SG3	C		9	
X	0039	NAD	Name and Address	M	1		
X	0040		Segment Group 3: CTA-COM	C		9	
X	0041	CTA	Contact Information	M	1		
X	0051	COM	Communication Contact	C	9		
R	0630		Segment Group 4: EQD-RFF-LOC-SEL-SG5-SG6-SG7	C		99999	
M	0631	EQD	Equipment Details	M	1		
R	0641	RFF	Reference	C	9		
D	0651	LOC	Place/Location Identification	C	9		
X	0661	SEL	Seal Number	C	99		
R	0671		Segment Group 5: MEA-DTM	C		9	
	0672	MEA	Measurements	M	1		
X	0682	DTM	Date/Time/Period	C	9		
X	0692		Segment Group 6: TDT-RFF	C		9	
X	0693	TDT	Transport Details	M	1		
X	0703	RFF	Reference	C	9		
X	0713		Segment Group 7: DOC-DTM-SG8	C		9	
X	0714	DOC	Document/Message Details	M	1		
X	0724	DTM	Date/Time/Period	C	9		
X	0734		Segment Group 8: NAD-SG9	M		9	
X	0735	NAD	Name and Address	M	1		
X	0040		Segment Group 9: CTA-COM	C		9	
X	0041	CTA	Contact Information	M	1		
X	0051	COM	Communication Contact	C	9		
M	0620	UNT	Message Trailer	M	1		
M	0766	UNZ	Interchange Trailer	M	1		


LEVEL
0
1
2
UNB
UNH
BGM
EQD
UNT
UNZ
EQD
RFF
LOC
MEA
MEA

3.1 Segment: UNB Interchange Header

Position: 0005
Group:
Level: 0
Usage: Mandatory
Max Use: 1
Purpose: To start, identify and specify an interchange
Comments:
Notes: Example Syntax:

UNB+UNOC:3+HSD+[RECEIVERID]+190102:1245+292'

Data Element Summary

	Data Element	Component Element	Name	Attributes	
M	**S001**		**SYNTAX IDENTIFIER**	**M**	**1**
			Identification of the agency controlling the syntax and indication of syntax level.		
M		**0001**	**Syntax identifier**	**M**	**a4**
			Coded identification of the agency controlling a syntax and syntax level used in an interchange.		
			Provided values:		
			UNOC UN/ECE level C As defined in ISO 8859-1: Information processing - Part 1: Latin alphabet No. 1.		
M		**0002**	**Syntax version number**	**M**	**n1**
			Version number of the syntax identified in the syntax identifier (0001).		
			Provided values:		
			3 Version 3 ISO 9735 Amendment 1:1992.		
M	**S002**		**INTERCHANGE SENDER**	**M**	**1**
			Identification of the sender of the interchange.		
M		**0004**	**Sender identification**	**M**	**an..35**
			Name or coded representation of the sender of a data interchange.		
			Provided values:		
			HSD Hamburg Süd		
X		**0007**	**Partner identification code qualifier**	**C**	**an..4**
X		**0008**	**Address for reverse routing**	**C**	**an..14**
	S003		**INTERCHANGE RECIPIENT**	**M**	**1**
			Identification of the recipient of the interchange.		
		0010	**Recipient identification**	**M**	**an..35**
			Name or coded representation of the recipient of a data interchange.		
X		**0007**	**Partner identification code qualifier**	**C**	**an..4**
X		**0014**	**Routing address**	**C**	**an..14**

M	**S004**		**DATE AND TIME OF PREPARATION**	**M**	**1**	
			Date and time of preparation of the interchange.			
M		**0017**	**Date of preparation**	**M**		**n6**
			Local date when an interchange or a functional group was prepared.			
			Used format: YYMMDD			
M		**0019**	**Time of preparation**	**M**		**n4**
			Local time of day when an interchange or a functional group was prepared.			
			Used format: hhmm			
M	**0020**		**INTERCHANGE CONTROL REFERENCE**	**M**	**1**	**an..14**
			Unique reference assigned by the sender to an interchange.			
X	**S005**		**RECIPIENTS REFERENCE PASSWORD**	**C**	**1**	
			Reference or password as agreed between the communicating partners.			
X		**0022**	**Recipient reference/password**	**M**		**an..14**
			Unique reference assigned by the recipient to the data interchange or a password to the recipient's system or to a third party network as specified in the partners interchange agreement.			
X		**0025**	**Recipient reference/password qualifier**	**C**		**an2**
			Qualifier for the recipient's reference or password.			
X	**0026**		**APPLICATION REFERENCE**	**C**	**1**	**an..14**
X	**0029**		**PROCESSING PRIORITY CODE**	**C**	**1**	**a1**
X	**0031**		**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT REQUEST**	**C**	**1**	**n1**
X	**0032**		**COMMUNICATIONS AGREEMENT ID**	**C**	**1**	**an..35**
X	**0035**		**TEST INDICATOR**	**C**	**1**	**n1**

3.2 Segment: UNH Message Header

Position: 0010
Group:
Level: 0
Usage: Mandatory
Max Use: 1
Purpose: To head, identify and specify a Message
Comments:
Notes: Example Syntax:

UNH+292+VERMAS:D:16A:UN'

Data Element Summary

	Data Element	Component Element	Name	Attributes		
M	**0062**		**MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER** Unique message reference assigned by the sender.	**M**	**1**	**an..14**
M	**S009**		**MESSAGE IDENTIFIER** Identification of the type, version etc. of the message being interchanged.	**M**	**1**	
M		**0065**	**Message type identifier** Code identifying a type of message and assigned by its controlling agency. Provided values: VERMAS — SOLAS Verified Gross Mass message	**M**		**an..6**
M		**0052**	**Message type version number** Version number of a message type. Provided values: D — Draft version/UN/EDIFACT Directory Message approved as a standard message (Valid for directories published after March 1997).	**M**		**an..3**
M		**0054**	**Message type release number** Release number within the current message type version number (0052). Provided values: 16A — Release 2016 - A	**M**		**an..3**
M		**0051**	**Controlling agency** Code identifying the agency controlling the specification, maintenance and publication of the message type. Provided values: UN — UN/CEFACT United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT).	**M**		**an..2**
X		**0057**	**Association assigned code**	**C**		**an..6**
X	**0068**		**COMMON ACCESS REFERENCE**	**C**	**1**	**an..35**
X	**S010**		**STATUS OF THE TRANSFER** Statement that the message is one in a sequence of transfers relating to the same topic.	**C**	**1**	
X		**0070**	**Sequence message transfer number**	**M**		**n..2**

		Number assigned by the sender indicating that the message is an addition or change of a previously sent message relating to the same topic.		
X	**0073**	**First/last sequence message transfer indication** Indication used for the first and last message in a sequence of the same type of message relating to the same topic.	**C**	**a1**

3.3 Segment: BGM Beginning of Message

Position: 0020
Group:
Level: 0
Usage: Mandatory
Max Use: 1
Purpose: To indicate the type and function of a message.
Comments:
Notes: Example Syntax

BGM+749++9'

Data Element Summary

	Data Element	Component Element	Name	Attributes		
R	**C002**		**DOCUMENT/MESSAGE NAME**	**C**	**1**	
			Identification of a type of document/message by code or name. Code preferred.			
R		**1001**	**Document name code**	**C**		**an..3**
			Code specifying the document name.			
			Provided values:			
			749 Transport equipment gross mass verification message			
X		**1131**	**Code list identification code**	**C**		**an..17**
X		**3055**	**Code list responsible agency code**	**C**		**an..3**
X		**1000**	**Document name**	**C**		**an..35**
X	**C106**		**DOCUMENT/MESSAGE IDENTIFICATION**	**C**	**1**	
			Identification of a document/message by its number and eventually its version or revision.			
X		**1004**	**Document identifier**	**C**		**an..35**
X		**1056**	**Version identifier**	**C**		**an..9**
X		**1060**	**Revision identifier**	**C**		**an..6**
R	**1225**		**MESSAGE FUNCTION CODE**	**C**	**1**	**an..3**
			Code indicating the function of the message.			
			Provided values:			
			9 Original			
X	**4343**		**RESPONSE TYPE CODE**	**C**	**1**	**an..3**

3.4 Group: EQD Segment Group 4: Equipment Details (SG4)

Position: 0630
Group:
Level: 1
Usage: Conditional (Required)
Max Use: 1
Purpose: A group of segments to specify (groups of) containers (with guidelines) in which goods are transported or which are taken on-hire or off-hire.

Segment Summary

Pos. No.	Seg. ID	Name	Req. Des.	Max. Use	Group: Repeat
0631	EQD	Equipment Details	M	1	
0641	RFF	Reference	M	1	
0651	LOC	Place/Location Identification	O	1	
0671		Segment Group 5: Measurements	R		1

3.4.1 Segment: EQD Equipment Details

Position: 0631 (Trigger Segment)
Group: Segment Group 4 (Equipment Details)
Level: 1
Usage: Mandatory
Max Use: 1
Purpose: To identify a unit of equipment.
Comments: As VGM regulations (in accordance to SOLAS Convention Chapter VI, Part A, Regulation 2) only apply for packed containers partner can (usually) expect that the provided information applies to a full container. Nevertheless no detailed information is provided in Full or Empty Indicator Code (8169).
Notes: Example Syntax:

EQD+CN+MSKU7624236+22G1'

Data Element Summary

	Data Element	Component Element	Name	Attributes		
M	**8053**		**EQUIPMENT TYPE CODE QUALIFIER** Code qualifying a type of equipment. Provided values: CN Container	**M**	**1**	**an..3**
R	**C237**		**EQUIPMENT IDENTIFICATION** Marks (letters/numbers) identifying equipment.	**C**	**1**	
R		**8260**	**Equipment identifier** To identify equipment.	**C**		**an..17**
X		**1131**	**Code list identification code**	**C**		**an..17**
X		**3055**	**Code list responsible agency code**	**C**		**an..3**
X		**3207**	**Country name code**	**C**		**an..3**
O	**C224**		**EQUIPMENT SIZE AND TYPE** Code identifying size and type of equipment.	**C**	**1**	
O		**8155**	**Equipment size and type description code** Code specifying the size and type of equipment. As defined in ISO 6346: Freight containers – Coding, identification and marking.	**C**		**an..10**
X		**1131**	**Code list identification code**	**C**		**an..17**
X		**3055**	**Code list responsible agency code**	**C**		**an..3**
X		**8154**	**Equipment size and type description**	**C**		**an..35**
X	**8077**		**EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER CODE**	**C**	**1**	**an..3**
X	**8249**		**EQUIPMENT STATUS CODE**	**C**	**1**	**an..3**
X	**8169**		**FULL OR EMPTY INDICATOR CODE**	**C**	**1**	**an..3**

3.4.2 Segment: RFF Reference

Position: 0641
Group: Segment Group 4 (SG4)
Level: 2
Usage: Conditional (Required)
Max Use: 1
Purpose: A segment to provide a reference for the liner service in particular the booking reference
Comments:
Notes: Example Syntax:

RFF+BN:8HAM001234

Data Element Summary

	Data Element	Component Element	Name		Attributes
M	**C506**		**REFERENCE**	**M**	**1**
			Identification of a reference.		
M		**1153**	**Reference code qualifier**	**M**	**an..3**
			Code qualifying a reference.		
			Provided values:		
			BN Booking reference number		
R		**1154**	**Reference identifier**	**C**	**an..70**
			Identifies a reference.		
X		**1156**	**Document line identifier**	**C**	**an..6**
X		**4000**	**Reference version identifier**	**C**	**an..35**
X		**1060**	**Revision identifier**	**C**	**an..6**

3.4.3 Segment: LOC Place/Location Identification

Position: 0651
Group: Segment Group 4 (SG4)
Level: 2
Usage: Conditional (Optional)
Max Use: 1
Purpose: To identify a place or a location and/or related locations.
Comments:
Notes: Example Syntax:

LOC+9++[UN/LOCODE]::6'

Data Element Summary

	Data Element	Component Element	Name	Attributes		
M	**3227**		**LOCATION FUNCTION CODE QUALIFIER** Code identifying the function of a location. Provided values: 9 Place/port of loading	**M**	**1**	**an..3**
R	**C517**		**LOCATION IDENTIFICATION** Identification of a location by code or name.	**C**	**1**	
		3225	**Location name code** Code specifying the name of the location.	**C**		**an..35**
X		**1131**	**Code list identification code**	**C**		**an..17**
R		**3055**	**Code list responsible agency code** Code specifying the agency responsible for a code list. Provided values: 6 UN/ECE (United Nations - Economic Commission for Europe)	**C**		**an..3**
X		**3224**	**Location name**	**C**		**an..256**
X	**C519**		**RELATED LOCATION ONE IDENTIFICATION** Identification the first related location by code or name.	**C**	**1**	
X		**3223**	**First related location name code** Code specifying first related location.	**C**		**an..35**
X		**1131**	**Code list identification code** Code identifying a code list.	**C**		**an..17**
X		**3055**	**Code list responsible agency code** Code specifying the agency responsible for a code list.	**C**		**an..3**
X		**3222**	**First related location name** Name of first related location.	**C**		**an..70**
X	**C553**		**RELATED LOCATION TWO IDENTIFICATION** Identification of second related location by code or name.	**C**	**1**	
X		**3233**	**Second related location name code** Code specifying the second related location.	**C**		**an..35**
X		**1131**	**Code list identification code** Code identifying a code list.	**C**		**an..17**

X		**3055**	**Code list responsible agency code** Code specifying the agency responsible for a code list.	**C**		**an..3**
X		**3232**	**Second related location name** Name of the second related location.	**C**		**an..70**
X	**5479**		**RELATION CODE**	**C**	**1**	**an..3**

3.5 Group: MEA Segment Group 5: Measurements (SG5)

Position: 0671
Group: Segment Group 4 (SG4)
Level: 2
Usage: Conditional (Required)
Max Use: 1
Purpose:

Segment Summary

Pos. No.	Seg. ID	Name	Req. Des.	Max. Use	Group: Repeat
0672	MEA	Measurements	M	1	

3.5.1 Segment: MEA Measurements

Position: 0672 (Trigger Segment)
Group: Segment Group 5 (Measurements)
Level: 2
Usage: Mandatory
Max Use: 1
Purpose: To specify physical measurements, including dimension tolerances, weights and counts.
Comments: VGM weights are only provided in kilograms per default.
Notes: Example Syntax:

MEA+AAE+VGM+KGM:24023'

Data Element Summary

	Data Element	Component Element	Name			Attributes
M	**6311**		**MEASUREMENT PURPOSE CODE QUALIFIER**	**M**	**1**	**an..3**
			Code qualifying the purpose of the measurement.			
			Provided values:			
			AAE Measurement			
R	**C502**		**MEASUREMENT DETAILS**	**C**	**1**	
			Identification of measurement type.			
R		**6313**	**Measured attribute code**	**C**		**an..3**
			Code specifying the attribute measured.			
			Provided values:			
			VGM Verified Gross Mass			
X		**6321**	**Measurement significance code**	**C**		**an..3**
X		**6155**	**Non-discrete measurement name code**	**C**		**an..17**
X		**6154**	**Non-discrete measurement name**	**C**		**an..70**
R	**C174**		**VALUE/RANGE**	**C**	**1**	
			Measurement value and relevant minimum and maximum values of the measurement range.			
R		**6411**	**Measurement unit code**	**M**		**an..3**
			Code specifying the unit of measurement.			
			Provided values:			
			KGM Kilogram			
R		**6314**	**Measurement value**	**C**		**an..18**
			To specify the value of a measurement.			
X		**6162**	**Range minimum value**	**C**		**n..18**
X		**6152**	**Range maximum value**	**C**		**n..18**
X		**6432**	**Significant digits quantity**	**C**		**n..2**
X	**7383**		**SURFACE OR LAYER CODE**	**C**	**1**	**an..3**

3.6 Segment: UNT Message Trailer

Position: 0620
Group:
Level: 0
Usage: Mandatory
Max Use: 1
Purpose: To end and check the completeness of a message, giving the total number of segments in the message (including the UNH & UNT) and the control reference number of the message.
Comments:
Notes: Example Syntax:

UNT+7+292'

Data Element Summary

	Data Element	Component Element	Name	Attributes		
M	**0074**		**NUMBER OF SEGMENTS IN A MESSAGE** Control count of number of segments in a message.	**M**	**1**	**n..6**
M	**0062**		**MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER** Unique message reference assigned by the sender.	**M**	**1**	**an..14**

3.7 Segment: UNZ Interchange Trailer

Position: 0766
Group:
Level: 0
Usage: Mandatory
Max Use: 1
Purpose: To end and check the completeness of an interchange, giving the total number of messages and the control reference number of the interchange.
Comments:
Notes: Example Syntax:

UNZ+1+292'

Data Element Summary

	Data Element	Component Element	Name	Attributes		
M	**0036**		**INTERCHANGE CONTROL COUNT** Count either of the number of messages or, if used, of the number of functional groups in an interchange.	**M**	**1**	**n..6**
M	**0020**		**INTERCHANGE CONTROL REFERENCE** Unique reference assigned by the sender to an interchange.	**M**	**1**	**an..14**

4 Example Message

Bold printed elements contain values, which depend on the message receiver's data.

4.1 Outgoing VERMAS Example

UNB+UNOC:3+HSD+**[RECEIVERID]**+190102:1245+292'

UNH+292+VERMAS:D:16A:UN'

BGM+749++9'

EQD+CN+MSKU7624236+22G1'

RFF+BN:8HAM001234'

LOC+9++**[UN/LOCODE]**::6'

MEA+AAE+VGM+KGM:24023'

UNT+7+292'

UNZ+1+292'